

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

() Check box if no longer subject to Section 16.
 Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instructions 1(b).

- () Form 3 Holdings Reported
 () Form 4 Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person
 Maffie, Michael O.

5241 Spring Mountain Road
 Las Vegas, NV 89102
 USA

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 Southwest Gas Corporation
 SWX

3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)

4. Statement for Month/Year
 December 1998

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)

6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)
 (X) Director () 10% Owner (X) Officer (give title below) () Other
 (specify below)

President and Chief Executive Officer

7. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (Check Applicable Line)

- (X) Form filed by One Reporting Person
 () Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I -- Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security	2. Transaction Date	3. Code	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Amount	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year A/D Price	6. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
Common Stock				12,735 (4)	I	401(k) Plan
Common Stock				43,526 (5)	D	
Common Stock				38 (6)	I	Custodian for child
Common Stock				3,025 (7)	I	By wife owned by wife.

Table II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative	3. Transaction Date	4. Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Amount	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date A/Exercise Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities Title and Number of Shares	8. Price of Derivative Security	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year	10. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$15	7/15/96	A	90,000	(1) 7/14/06	Common Stock	90,000	90,000	D	
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$19.125	7/15/97	A	25,000	(2) 7/14/07	Common Stock	25,000	25,000	D	
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$23.0625	7/21/98	A	25,000	(3) 7/21/08	Common Stock	25,000	25,000	D	

Explanation of Responses:

(1) The option vests in three annual installments of 36,000 shares in 1997, 27,000 shares in 1998, and 27,000 shares in 1999, beginning on July 15, 1997.

(2) The option vests in three annual installments of 10,000 shares in 1998, 7,500 shares in 1999, and 7,500 shares in 2000, beginning July 15, 1998.

(3) The option vests in three annual installments of 10,000 shares in 1999, 7,500 shares in 2000, and 7,500 shares in 2001, beginning July 21,

- 1999.
- (4) Includes 328 shares acquired June through December 1998 pursuant to the dividend reinvestment feature of the SWX 401(k) plan.
 - (5) Includes 952 shares acquired June through December 1998 pursuant to the dividend reinvestment feature of SWX restricted stock plan.
 - (6) Includes 1 shares acquired June through December 1998 pursuant to the dividend reinvestment plan.
 - (7) Includes 78 shares acquired June through December 1998 pursuant to the dividend reinvestment feature of the SWX 401(k) plan.

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON

/s/Michael O. Maffie by Faye J. Ringler, Attorney in fact

DATE

2/1/99